

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 were pending. Claims 7 and 14 have been amended and claims 8-10, 12 and 15 have been canceled to clarify the invention. New claims 29-36 have been added. Support for the amended and new claims can be found throughout the specification. For example, support for the amendments to claims 7 and 14 may be found, *inter alia*, at page 9, line 31 to page 10, line 8, and page 59, lines 24 to 27; the support for new claims 29 and 30 may be found, *inter alia*, at page 47, line 31 to page 48, line 1, at page 49, lines 13 to 15, at page 60, lines 27 to 29, at page 98, lines 27 to 28, at page 100, lines 3 to 5 and at page 105, lines 12 to 13; the support for new claims 31 and 32 may be found, *inter alia*, at page 60, lines 27 to 29 and at page 100, lines 3 to 5; the support for new claims 33-36 may be found, *inter alia*, at page 28, lines 14 to 19, at page 60, lines 24 to 29, and at page 70, line 22 to page 71, line 7. No new matter has been added. Thus, claims 1-7, 11, 13-14, and 16-32 will be pending on entry of the amendments submitted herein.

ELECTION/RESTRICTIONS

The Examiner has required a restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- I. Claims 2 and 5, drawn to a method for screening compounds that modulate Fbp1-related disorders by measuring the interaction of Fbp1 with Fbp5, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- II. Claims 3 and 6, drawn to a method for screening compounds that modulate Fbp1-related disorders by measuring the levels of Fbp5 protein, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- III. Claims 8 and 10, drawn to a method for screening comprising contacting a cell and β-catenin and detecting a change in the interaction of Fbp1 or βTrcp2 with β-catenin, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- IV. Claims 8 and 11, drawn to a method for screening comprising contacting a cell and β-catenin and detecting a change in the interaction of Fbp1 or βTrcp2 with IκBα, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- V. Claims 8, 12, and 15, drawn to a method for screening comprising contacting a cell and β-catenin and detecting a change in the levels of β-catenin protein, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.

- VI. Claims 8, 13, and 16, drawn to a method for screening comprising contacting a cell and β -catenin and detecting a change in the levels of $\text{IkB}\alpha$ protein, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- VII. Claims 9 and 10, drawn to a method for screening comprising contacting a cell and $\text{IkB}\alpha$ and detecting a change in the interaction of Fbp1 or βTrcp2 with β -catenin, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- VIII. Claims 9 and 11, drawn to a method for screening comprising contacting a cell and $\text{IkB}\alpha$ and detecting a change in the interaction of Fbp1 or βTrcp2 with $\text{IkB}\alpha$, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- IX. Claims 9, 12, and 15, drawn to a method for screening comprising contacting a cell and $\text{IkB}\alpha$ and detecting a change in the levels of β -catenin protein, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- X. Claims 9, 13, and 16, drawn to a method for screening comprising contacting a cell and $\text{IkB}\alpha$ and detecting a change in the levels of $\text{IkB}\alpha$ protein, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- XI. Claims 17-19 and 22-28, drawn to a method for diagnosing decreased fertility and a method for detecting an Fbp1 -related infertility disorder, classified in class 435, subclass 6.
- XII. Claim 20, drawn to a pharmaceutical composition, classified in class 514, subclass 789.
- XIII. Claim 21, drawn to a method of treating Fbp1 -related infertility, classified in class 514, subclass 789.

In response, Applicants hereby provisionally elect, with traverse, Group X, Claims 9, 13 and 16, drawn to a method for screening comprising contacting a cell and $\text{IkB}\alpha$ and detecting a change in the levels of $\text{IkB}\alpha$, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1. Applicants presume the Examiner's description of Group X relates to the subject matter of claims 9, 13 and 16, *i.e.*, drawn to a method for screening compounds useful for the treatment of proliferative and differentiative disorders, comprising comprising contacting a cell or cell extract expressing both Fbp1 and βTrcp2 , and $\text{IkB}\alpha$, and detecting a change in the activity of Fbp1 or βTrcp2 , wherein the change in activity of Fbp1 or βTrcp2 is detected by detecting a change in the levels of $\text{IkB}\alpha$.

Applicants believe that claims 7 and 14 as amended, in part, and new claims 29 to 36 are directed to methods that fall within the invention of Group X.

Upon the allowance of a product claim, Applicants request that any withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim be rejoined in accordance with the provisions of M.P.E.P. § 821.04.

Applicants fully reserve the right to prosecute the subject matter of the non-elected inventions in one or more related applications. In addition, Applicants retain the right to petition from the restriction requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.144.

Applicants respectfully request that the above remarks and amendments be entered and made of record in the file history of the instant application.

Respectfully submitted,

by Jacqueline Benn
Reg No. 43,492

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Laura A. Coruzzi 30,742
Laura A. Coruzzi (Reg. No.)

JONES DAY
222 East 41st Street
New York, NY 10017
(212) 326-3939